

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's)	
Amateur Radio Service Rules to Eliminate)	RM - 10786
Morse Code Proficiency Testing Requirements)	
For All Classes of Amateur Licenses)	
)	
To: The Commission)	

Comments Of John Edwin Ross, Ph.D., P.E., KC7WVD

I have spent the last 23 years as an active member of the electrical engineering community. In that time, I have seen a large number of otherwise highly qualified technical individuals deterred from entering the Amateur Radio Service due to the Morse Code testing requirement. While most of these individuals would not be the least bit bothered by higher standards on the written examinations, they find the idea of Morse code somewhat amusing given the current state-of-the-art in communications technology. The fact is, except for those interested in practicing it for hobby applications, Morse code is essentially obsolete. Since one of the fundamental missions of Amateur Radio is to promote the advancement of radio art, it makes no sense whatsoever to retain testing of an obsolete mode, especially when it might deter otherwise capable individuals from becoming Amateur Radio operators. I am in full support of the NCI petition to abolish Morse code testing for all Classes of Amateur Licenses. Please act to implement it as soon as possible.

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